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CANADIAN PATENT

SANITARY AND DISPOSABLE RECEPTACLE FOR BEDPANS

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PRIORITY DATE

No. OF CLAIMS 3

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This invention relates to a bed pan, a disposable insert for said bed pan, and a combination of a bed pan and disposable insert.

The main object of the present invention is to provide means which will eliminate the untidiness associated with the use of a bed pan. The deposit of eliminated wastes directly in a bed pan, as is well known, requires a thorough washing of the bed pan after each occasion of use, and it is this particular situation that the present invention is designed to eliminate.

10 In accordance with the invention, there is a novel bed pan which could, if desired, be used in the same manner as a conventional bed pan, that is, it can be employed alone, as a receptacle for the eliminated wastes. However, by reason of the invention a disposable insert can be readily placed in the bed pan, to receive the wastes, after which said insert and the wastes can be thrown away together without any contact of the wastes with the bed pan. Therefore, the necessity of washing and perhaps, sterilizing of the bed pan after each use is completely eliminated.

20 In another form of the invention, there is provided a disposable insert which can be used in association with a conventional bed pan.

Another object of importance is to provide a disposable insert which can be manufactured at very low cost, so as to be capable of being manufactured and packaged in substantial quantities.

Still another object is to so form the insert that it will occupy a minimum amount of space when in its stacked or packaged condition, while awaiting use.

30 Still another object of importance, in one form of the invention, is to provide an insert for bed pans which will be designed to be swiftly and easily closed and sealed with the

wastes confined therein, so as to be capable of being discharged with the wastes in a neatly closed condition wholly concealed and assuring against accidental droppage of the wastes out of the insert.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

10 In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a bed pan formed according to the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view thereof as seen from the line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the bed pan, taken substantially on line 3-3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view taken substantially on line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

20 Fig. 5 is a front elevational view of a disposable insert used with the bed pan of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a side elevational view of the insert.

Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the insert.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of the blank from which the insert is formed.

Fig. 9 is a top plan view of the bed pan of Fig. 1 and the insert of Fig. 7, showing the insert partially inserted in the bed pan.

30 Fig. 10 is a longitudinal sectional view substantially on line 10-10 of Fig. 9.

Fig. 11 is a top plan view of a conventional bed pan with a second form of the insert partially broken away.

Fig. 12 is a sectional view on line 12-12 of Fig. 11.

Fig. 13 is a top plan view of still another form of insert, positioned upon a bed pan ready for use.

Fig. 14 is a sectional view on line 14-14 of Fig. 13.

Fig. 15 is a view like Fig. 13 in which the insert has been folded over and sealed, preliminary to being discarded.

Fig. 16 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of a still further
10 modification of the invention.

Fig. 17 is a cross sectional view taken on line 17-17 of Fig. 16.

Fig. 18 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 18-18 of Fig. 16.

Referring to the drawing in detail, the bed pan shown in Figs. 1-3 has been generally designated 10, and includes a rectangular receptacle 11 formed with a flat, rectangular bottom wall 12, vertically upwardly extending side walls 14, a vertically upwardly extending back wall 16 connected to the side walls 14
20 through the provision of rounded corner portions 17, and a vertical front wall 18. The front wall 18 and back wall 16 are perpendicular to the side walls, providing the rectangular configuration to the receptacle.

The wall 18, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, extends only half the height of the side and back walls, thus providing at the front of the bed pan a transversely extending insert opening or slot 20 disposed below the seat 21 of the bed pan.

Seat 21 is disposed in a plane parallel to that of the bottom wall 12, and is approximately U-shaped, being open at its
30 front in the preferred embodiment although in some commercial

embodiments, the seat might be continuous or unbroken over its full circumference. In any even, in accordance with the invention, the seat is of a molded material such as plastic, and is molded directly onto the top edge portions of the side and back walls 14 and 16, respectively (see Fig. 3). With the side and back walls embedded in the underside of the seat 21, a highly durable, strong construction is provided.

The opening 20 is disposed wholly below the plane of the flat underside of the seat 21, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 4.
 10 This is to permit the insertion and removal of an insert generally designated 22.

Insert 22 can be formed of a cheap but waterproof paper, as for example, a thin cardboard that is suitably waxed, so as to be proof against the passage of moisture therethrough. As will be noted, the overall height of the insert 22 is no greater than the vertical dimension of the opening 20, so that the insert can be extended into and out of the receptacle through the opening 20 in the manner shown in Figs. 9 and 10.

The insert 22, when in blank, appears as in Fig. 8 and
 20 includes a flat, rectangular bottom wall 24, integral with low side walls 26 foldable upon upwardly longitudinal fold lines 28. At opposite ends of the bottom wall 24, there are provided a back wall 30 and a front wall 32 foldable along transverse fold lines 34, 36, respectively. Front wall 32, medially between its opposite sides, has a forwardly projecting tab 38 foldable along a line 40 parallel to the fold line 36. Tab 38 provides a handle in the completed form of the insert.

At opposite ends of the back and front walls, there are provided connecting tabs 42, 44, respectively. These are foldable
 30 along lines 46, 48, respectively.

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Therefore, the disposable insert can be purchased, in substantial quantities, in a fully flattened or blank condition shown in Fig. 8. The stack of inserts in a single package, accordingly, would be very compact, since no insert will take any more space than the thickness of the material from which it is formed.

When an insert is to be used, it is removed from the stack, and the sides, front and back are folded upwardly along the fold lines 28, 34, 36. Then, the connecting tabs 42, 44 are
10 folded inwardly to their Fig. 7 positions, and the adhesive 50 provided upon the opposite ends of the inner surfaces of the side walls 26 will be disposed for contacting the ears so as to close the completed device at its corners.

Before the insert is folded, the adhesive 50 could be covered by a suitable, removable cover strip, of course, this being sufficiently obvious as not to require special illustration herein.

In any event, the bed pan shown in Figs. 1-3 could be used alone, without an insert, and the opening 20 facilitates
20 pouring of the wastes out of the bed pan. However, if one desires to use the insert, the insert is put into the bed pan, drawer-fashion, in the manner shown in Figs. 9 and 10, that is, the insert is shifted horizontally through the opening 20 until it is fully within the bed pan. The insert will completely cover the bottom of the bed pan, and will be in the dotted line position shown in Fig. 10. Therefore, it is readily apparent that all wastes eliminated by the user will drop into the insert. Subsequently, the insert is removed in the same manner in which it is inserted. The insert can then be disposed of together with the
30 wastes which have accumulated therein.

In Fig. 11 there is shown a modified construction, usable with a conventional bed pan 52 having the usual receptacle portion 54 integral with the outwardly directed flange portion 56 that provides a seat. The insert in this case has been generally designated 58 and has a dished or receptacle portion 60 that is shaped to fit snugly in the receptacle portion 54. The insert is further formed with an outwardly directed, continuous flange portion 62 that overlies the seat 56. Therefore, the insert not only is disposed to receive all the eliminated body wastes but
10 also, provides a sanitary covering for the seat of the conventional bed pan, designed to prevent all contact between the skin of the user and the surface of the bed pan.

The insert, in this form of the invention, can be formed of pressed or molded paper, a fibrous or pulpy material, etc. A large quantity of the inserts can be stacked to provide a compact package.

In Figs. 13-15 there is shown another modified insert generally designated 64, usable with the conventional bed pan 52. In this form of the invention the insert is again formed from a
20 blank of relatively thin paper or cardboard waxed or otherwise treated to make the same impervious to the passage of moisture. Again, the insert may be left in an unfolded condition while awaiting use. In fact, the insert is left unfolded when used, as will be noted from Fig. 13. In this form the insert is molded or otherwise formed with a large receptacle portion 66 shaped to fit snugly in the space about which the seat 56 of the bed pan extends.

The receptacle portion 66 receives the eliminated wastes, and surrounding the portion 66 is a large, rectangular flange portion that includes a back portion 68 and a front portion 70 at
30 opposite ends of the receptacle portion 66. At opposite sides of

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the receptacle portion 66 there are side portions 72. These are foldable along longitudinal fold lines 74 extending fully from the front to the back edges of the insert.

Extending the full distance between the fold lines 74, at the opposite ends of the insert, are narrow tabs or flaps 76, covered with adhesive 78.

In use of this form of the invention, when the insert is positioned on the bed pan, the portions 68, 70, 72 will completely cover the seat 56 to provide for full maintenance of proper sanitation by preventing contact of the skin and bed pan. After the device has been used, one need only fold the portions 72 toward each other along the lines 74, in overlying relation to the receptacle portion 66, to the Fig. 15 positions. In this position of the foldable side portions 72, they are folded over into overlapping relation, to completely cover the receptacle portion 66 in which the wastes have been deposited. Then, one folds the tabs or flaps 76 forwardly, over the previously folded portions 72, and the adhesive 78, which is of the pressure-sensitive type, effectively seals the folded-over portions at their opposite ends. The insert is thus neatly closed, with the wastes being wholly concealed and held against accidental droppage from the insert. The insert may then be discarded in its closed, sealed condition, together with the accumulated wastes confined therein.

Referring now to the modified form of bedpan 10' shown in Figs. 16 to 18, inclusive, this bedpan 10' differs from the form shown in Figs. 1 to 10, inclusive, in that the legs 80 of the seat 21' are straighter than the legs of the seat 21. Furthermore, an auxiliary seat 82 smaller in dimensions than the seat 21' and flatter in cross section, with its undersurface conforming to the shape of the outer upper surface of the seat 21', is seated on

the seat 21'. The auxiliary seat 82 is formed with elongated slits 84 extending substantially the length of the legs 86 thereof and intersecting the ends of the legs, thereby defining elongated fingers 88, round in cross-section.

In accordance with this form of the invention, a flexible insert 90 is clamped between the fingers 88 and legs 86 of the seat 21'. The insert 90 is preferably formed from a blank of relatively thin paper or cardboard waxed or otherwise treated to make the same impervious to the passage of moisture. The blank
 10 is cut away along its peripheral edges as indicated at 92, 92 thereby defining edge flaps 94, 94 and 96. In positioning the insert, the blank is shaped to conform to the shape of the rectangular receptacle 11' and its flaps 94, 94 threaded through the slits 84, 84 and above resting on the outer surface of the auxiliary seat 82, and its flap 96 positioned above and pressed against the bight portion 98 of the auxiliary seat 82 as seen in Fig. 16. When the blank is so shaped the body thereof defines a large receptacle portion 66' disposed in the receptacle 11'.

In assembling the bed pan 10', the auxiliary seat 82
 20 with the insert 90 attached is seated on the seat 21' so that the receptacle 66' occupies the larger area of the receptacle 11'. In use, the flaps 94, 94 and 96 afford protection for the user of the bedpan. After use, the insert 90 can be readily removed and folded by means of the flaps and the remaining edges thereby concealing and supporting the wastes, whereupon the insert may be discarded in its closed folded condition together with the wastes confined therein.

In all forms of the invention, of course, the insert is characterized by its very low cost, its adaptability for manufacture
 30 by mass production methods, and its further adaptability to

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be stacked in a compact package, though in considerable quantities, while awaiting use.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A bed pan comprising a generally rectangular shaped receptacle, a main substantially U-shaped seat extending about the top portion of the sides and back of the receptacle, said receptacle including side and back walls embedded in the underside of the seat, an auxiliary substantially U-shaped seat extending about and seated upon the main seat, said auxiliary seat formed with slits along its side legs for substantially the length thereof and intersecting the ends thereof, thereby defining elongated fingers, an insert carried by said auxiliary seat, said insert constituted by a blank of flexible cardboard shaped to conform to the shape of the rectangular-shape receptacle and disposed in said receptacle, opposed peripheral flaps on the blank threaded through the slits in the auxiliary seat and the fingers thereof, and an end flap on the blank extending over the bight portion of the auxiliary seat.

2. A bed pan comprising a generally rectangular shaped receptacle, a main substantially U-shaped seat extending about the top portion of the sides and back of the receptacle, said receptacle including side and back walls embedded in the underside of the seat, an auxiliary substantially U-shaped seat extending about and seated upon the main seat, said auxiliary seat formed with slits along its side legs for substantially the length thereof and intersecting the ends thereof, an insert carried by said auxiliary seat, said insert constituted by a blank of flexible cardboard shaped to conform to the shape of the rectangular-shaped receptacle and disposed in said receptacle, opposed peripheral flaps on the blank, means for clamping said flaps in said slits, and an end flap on the blank extending over the bight portion of the auxiliary seat.

3. A device of the kind described comprising a main toilet seat having an opening therein, an auxiliary member detachably connected to the main seat to be supported therefrom, said auxiliary member having finger-like means extending substantial-

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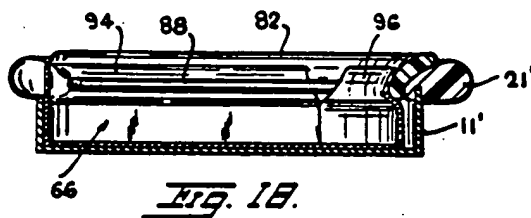
ly throughout the length of the auxiliary seat on both sides thereof for supporting a thin disposable insert removably carried by said means, said insert including a flexible sheet body conforming generally in shape to the shape of the seat and adapted to underlie the opening thereof, the opposite sides of said flexible sheet body shaped to coact with said finger-like means for holding the sheet in position on the auxiliary member and a formation on at least one of the ends of the sheet to close the end thereof.



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Fig. 16. A perspective view of a U-shaped device, possibly a collar or support, showing internal components and structural details. The device has a U-shaped outer frame (82) and an inner lining (92). Internal components include a central support structure (84, 86, 88, 90, 94) and a top/bottom band (98, 96). The device is shown in a perspective view, with dashed lines indicating internal or hidden parts. The label "Fig. 16." is at the bottom.



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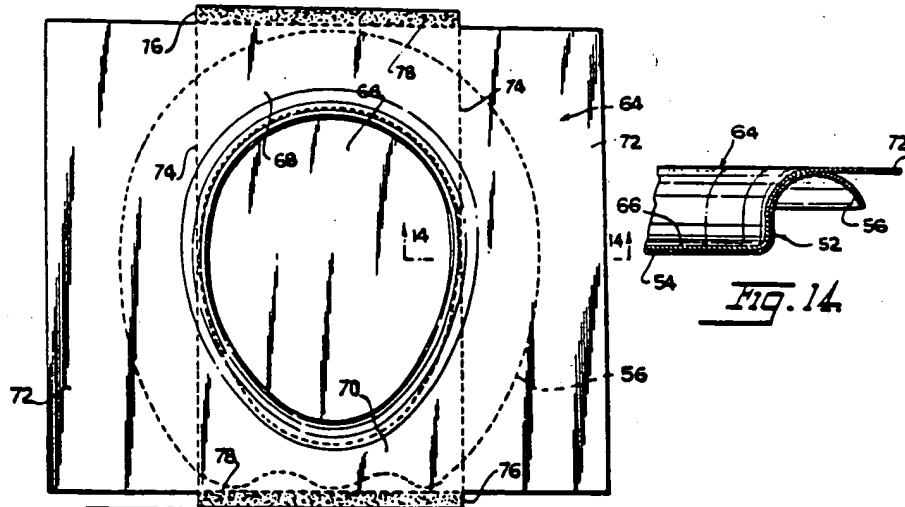


Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.

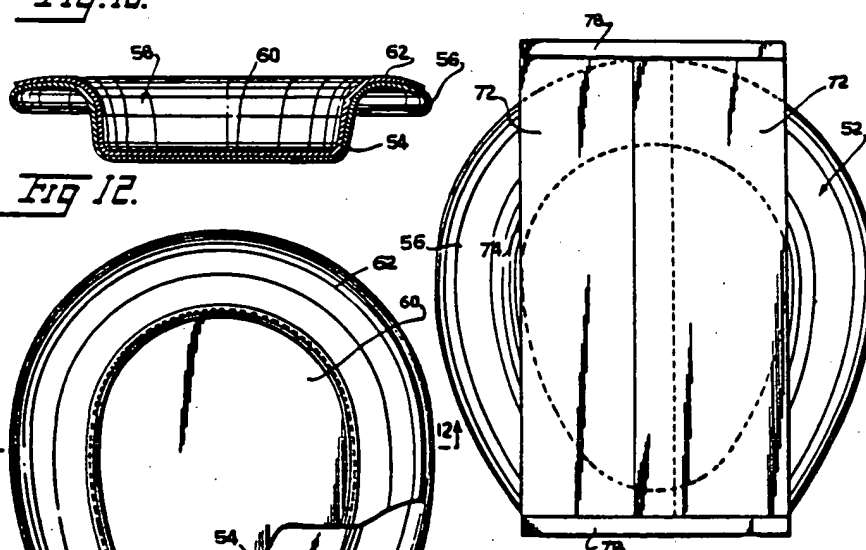


Fig. 12.

Fig. 15.

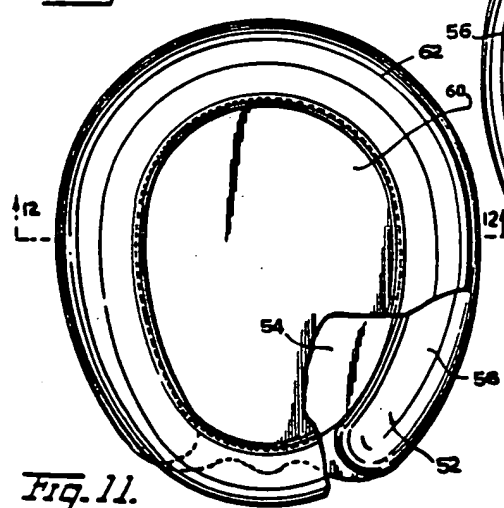


Fig. 11.

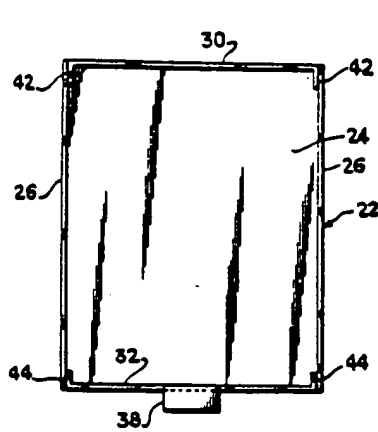


Fig. 7

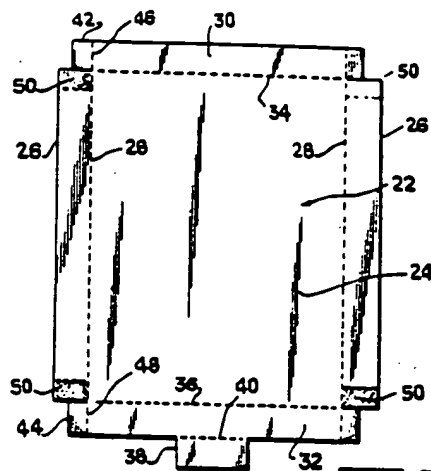


Fig. 8

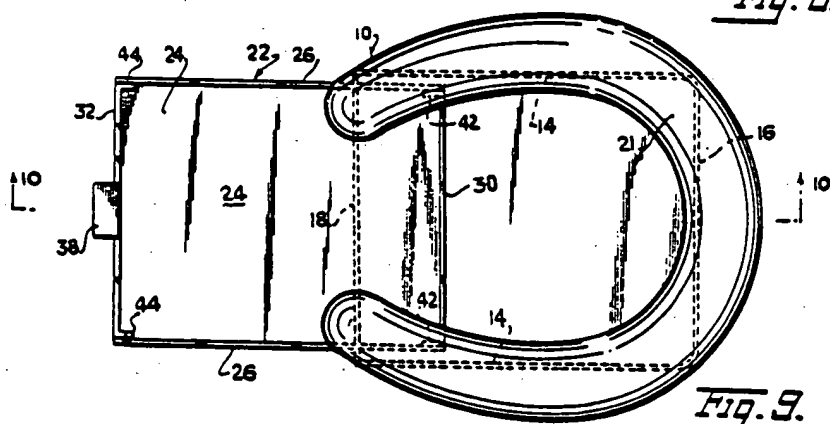


Fig. 9

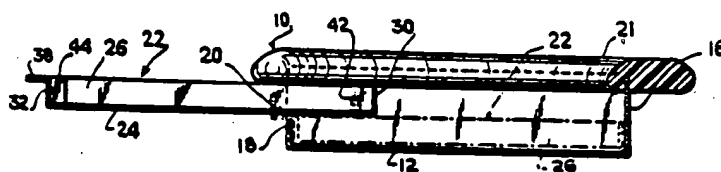


Fig. 10

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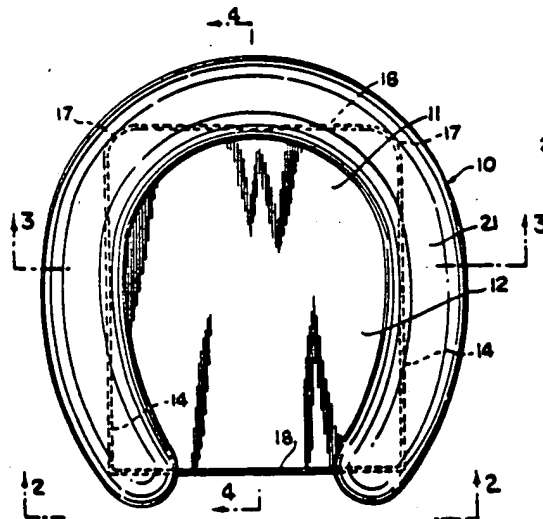


Fig. 1.

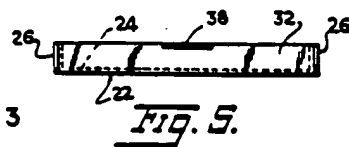


Fig. 5.

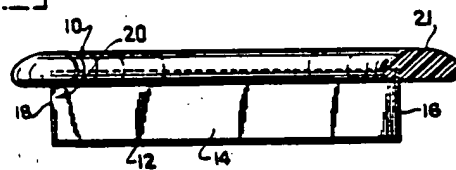


Fig. 4.

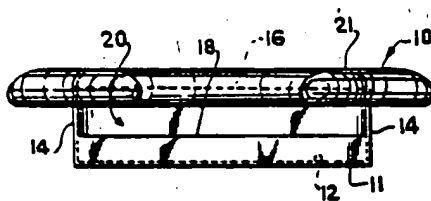


Fig. 2.

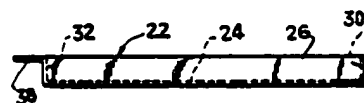


Fig. 6.

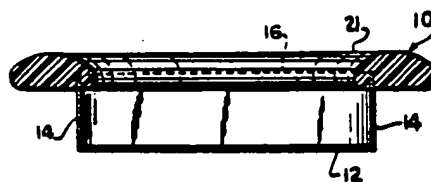


Fig. 3.